

MAR 08 2007

2

1. (currently amended) An acetabular reamer for surgical use, the reamer comprising (a) a substantially hemispherical, hollow dome extending to a lower edge and defining an equatorial plane and an apex, and (b) a reamer spindle interface structure fixedly attached to the inside of the dome so as to completely and substantially inset the interface structure inwardly from the edge and within the dome in order to help minimize the size of an assembly of the reamer and a reamer spindle when performing joint surgery.
2. (currently amended) The acetabular reamer of claim 1, wherein the interface structure is attached via at least one internal junction which is substantially entirely recessed within the dome above the equatorial plane.
3. (currently amended) The acetabular reamer of claim 1, wherein the dome has at least one substantial section removed so as to reduce a static insertion profile of the reamer, as compared to a dynamic profile, in order to facilitate surgery which is less invasive.
4. (original) The reamer of claim 1, wherein a plurality of sections of the dome are removed so as to reduce a static insertion profile of the reamer in order to permit surgery which is still less invasive.
5. (original) The reamer of claim 4, wherein the removed sections are equally spaced about the equator of the dome.
6. (original) The reamer of claim 1, wherein the interface structure is fixedly attached to the inside of the dome via a junction located approximately at the apex of the dome.
7. (currently amended) The reamer of claim 1, wherein the interface structure is fixedly attached to the inside of the dome in regions substantially along the latitudinal plane of the interface structure.

8. (currently amended) The reamer of claim [[2]] 3, wherein the section removed from the dome renders the dome asymmetrical.

9. (original) The reamer of claim 1, wherein the interface structure is a portion of at least one cross bar.

10. (original) The reamer of claim 1, wherein the interface structure comprises at least two, equally spaced apart cross bars.

11. (original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the interface structure is fixedly attached to the inside of the dome by a single cross bar having a central centering boss.

12. (original) The reamer of claim 1 wherein the interface structure is fixed to the inside of the dome by a single cross bar having a central centering hole.

13. (currently amended) A surgical reamer assembly comprised of (a) a the hollow reamer of claim 1, having a substantially inset interface structure, and (b) an angled reamer spindle having a coupling, wherein the reamer and the spindle are attached together via the inset interface structure and the coupling, the assembly providing for minimum invasiveness of orthopedic surgery.